

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1879

By: Standridge

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to absentee ballots; amending 26 O.S. 2021, Section 14-105, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 292, O.S.L. 2022 (26 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 14-105), which relates to applications for absentee ballots; limiting qualifying justifications for absentee ballot applications; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 14-105, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 292, O.S.L. 2022 (26 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 14-105), is amended to read as follows:

Section 14-105. A. Any registered voter may apply for an absentee ballot in person at the county election board, by United States mail, by facsimile device as defined in Section 1862 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes or by a means of electronic communication designated by the Secretary of the State Election Board. The Secretary of the State Election Board shall prescribe a form to be used for the application, although any application setting forth substantially the same facts shall be valid.

1 B. 1. A registered voter applying for an absentee ballot by  
2 means of electronic communication shall provide his or her name,  
3 birth date, an identification number, a qualifying justification for  
4 the request as outlined in paragraph 6 of this subsection, and other  
5 information as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the State  
6 Election Board. The name, birth date, and identification number  
7 provided on the application must match the name, birth date, and  
8 identification number in the voter registration record in order to  
9 apply for an absentee ballot pursuant to this subsection.

10 2. If the voter does not recall which identification number he  
11 or she included in the voter registration record, the voter may  
12 provide multiple identification numbers, at least one of which must  
13 match the identification number in the voter registration record if  
14 such record included an identification number. If the name, birth  
15 date, or any identification number provided does not match the voter  
16 registration record, the voter shall be informed of the failure to  
17 match the voter registration record and shall be provided  
18 information and instruction to contact the county election board.

19 3. If the voter registration record on file with the county  
20 election board does not contain a birth date or identification  
21 number, the voter shall not be eligible to apply for an absentee  
22 ballot by means of electronic communication but may apply for an  
23 absentee ballot pursuant to subsection C of this section.  
24

1       4. Identifying information such as birth date and  
2 identification number shall not be modified online in an existing  
3 voter registration except as provided in Section 4-109.4 of this  
4 title.

5       5. No later than January 1, 2023, a registered voter applying  
6 for an absentee ballot pursuant to this subsection who meets the  
7 criteria provided in Section 7-115.1 of this title shall be required  
8 to confirm his or her address prior to submitting an application for  
9 absentee ballot by means of electronic communication.

10       6. Excluding in-person absentee voting pursuant to Section 14-  
11 115.4 of this title, qualifying justifications for requesting an  
12 absentee ballot shall be limited to the following:

- 13           a. the person is employed outside of the county or the  
14           state, or outside of the city for municipal elections,  
15           on election day,
- 16           b. the person has a physical illness, infirmity, or  
17           disability which prevents his or her attendance at the  
18           polls on election day pursuant to Sections 14-110.1,  
19           14-115.1, and 14-115.12 of this title,
- 20           c. the person is primarily responsible for the physical  
21           care of a person with a physical illness, infirmity,  
22           or disability which prevents his or her attendance at  
23           the polls on election day pursuant to Section 14-110.1  
24           of this title,

- 1           d. the person is a member of, or spouse or dependent of a  
2           member of, the Armed Forces of the United States or is  
3           similarly qualified to vote absentee pursuant to  
4           Section 14-142 of this title and 52 U.S.C., Sections  
5           20301 through 20311, or  
6           e. the person is deployed as a first responder, emergency  
7           worker, or uniformed-service member pursuant to  
8           Section 14-115.6 of this title.

9           7. Failure to include a qualifying justification with an  
10          application for an absentee ballot shall result in a denial of the  
11          application.

12           C. 1. A registered voter applying for an absentee ballot in  
13          person, by United States mail, or by facsimile device shall provide  
14          his or her name, birth date, an identification number, a qualifying  
15          justification for the request as outlined in paragraph 6 of  
16          subsection B of this section, and other information as may be  
17          prescribed by the Secretary of the State Election Board. The name,  
18          birth date, and identification number provided on the application  
19          must match the name, birth date, and identification number in the  
20          voter registration record.

21           2. If the voter does not recall which identification number he  
22          or she included in the voter registration record, the voter may  
23          provide multiple identification numbers, at least one of which must  
24          match the identification number in the voter registration record if

1 such record included an identification number. If the voter  
2 registration record does not contain a birth date or an  
3 identification number, the absentee ballot application shall be  
4 accepted without a match of a birth date or an identification  
5 number.

6 D. For purposes of this section, "identification number" means  
7 a number submitted on the registration application pursuant to  
8 paragraph 3 of subsection A of Section 4-112 of this title.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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